

Chapel Weekly News

380 Chapel Street | Stratford, CT 06614 | 203-385-4192
Principal: Dr. Armistead | Assistant Principal: Mr. Hubball



2026-2027
Week 7

Stay Connected With Us

Website | [Chapel Street School](#)
Instagram | [Chapel Elementary School](#)
X (Twitter) | [Chapel Street School](#)

Important Dates

- ★ Father's Club Can & Bottle Drive - Saturday, Oct. 10th
- ★ Fall Picture Day - Monday, October 12, 2026
- ★ **Pink Day, Wednesday, October 14, 2026**
- ★ Parent/Teacher Conferences, Thursday, Oct. 15, 2026
- ★ Father's Club - Our Pride & Joy Dance, Friday, Oct. 16th
- ★ Trunk or Treat, Friday, October 23, 2026 [6:00-7:30 pm]

Chapel Weekly Happenings



Dear Chapel Families,

We had another wonderful week at Chapel! As we were reflecting on what made this past week feel so special, the answer became clear: our parents. It was a powerful reminder of how essential families are in education. Every day, our school community strives to provide all students with a high-quality educational experience, and our families are a vital part of that mission.

We were delighted to see so many parents involved throughout the week. On Tuesday, parent volunteers joined us for the PTA Paint 'n Sip for students in grades K through 3. The kids had a fantastic time—we clearly have many talented up-and-coming artists! Midweek, parents on our Climate and Action Team for Partnerships finalized plans for Pink Day, a Breast Cancer Awareness initiative and fundraiser. We love the creativity, enthusiasm, and energy our parent community brings. Our second graders also enjoyed a wonderful visit to Boothe Park, supported by the many parents who volunteered as chaperones. Finally, in fourth grade, Dr. Lozinak's students hosted a writing celebration, and it was heartwarming to see so many parents come to hear the pieces their children worked so hard on and were so proud to share.

Looking ahead, we will host our first round of Parent-Teacher Conferences next week on Thursday, October 15th. Our teachers are eager to connect with you and share your child's social and academic progress. When families and educators work together, our students thrive. Parents play an integral role in their child's education, and we are so grateful you partnered with us in such meaningful ways this week—let's keep this momentum going!

Warmly,

Dr. Armistead and Mr. Hubball



PINK DAY - Wednesday, OCTOBER 14, 2026

We are thrilled to partner with the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation and the Norma Pfriem Breast Cancer Center this year to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer. Driven by our Climate & Action Team for Partnerships Committee, there is incredible energy building around this meaningful cause.

Our goal is to raise **\$1,000** between now and **October 14, 2026**.

Here is the link: [Chapel Fundraising Link](#)

October 14th will be our official **Pink Day**, featuring a variety of community activities:

- **Wear Pink:** Staff and students are encouraged to wear pink to school.
- **Pink Contests:** We will host a "Most Pink" contest for staff members and classrooms in each grade level. Winners will get a group photo with the official Norma Pfriem Breast Cancer pink car.
- **Outdoor Pink Parade:** A festive outdoor parade complete with music.
- **Acts of Kindness:** Students will paint encouragement rocks to be gifted to the cancer center and create cards and letters for breast cancer patients and survivors.

We hope the entire Chapel community will join us in supporting this vital cause.

News from the Father's Club

Can & Bottle Drive -10/10 and The Pride and Joy Dance -10/16

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY FATHERS CLUB

CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE!

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

NEW DATE!
SATURDAY OCT. 10TH
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Drop off in the school parking lot.

PLEASE BRING

- ✓ Aluminum cans (soda, seltzer, energy drinks, etc.)
- ✓ Plastic bottles (water, soda, sports drinks, etc.)
- ✓ Rinse if possible
- ✓ No glass please

Together, we CAN make a difference!

GET INVOLVED!
The more dads who get involved, the bigger the impact we can make for our kids and our school!

HELP US RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT
Chapel Street Elementary students, events, and community programs.

DONATE
Your cans and bottles make a difference!

SUPPORT
All proceeds benefit Chapel Street Elementary students and programs.

MAKE AN IMPACT
Small change. Big impact. Stronger kids. Stronger community.

STRONG DADS STRONG KIDS STRONG COMMUNITY

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY FATHERS CLUB PRESENTS

Our Pride and Joy DANCE

A SPECIAL DANCE FOR DADS AND THEIR LOVED ONES

\$20.00 PER FAMILY
ONE PRICE. MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2026
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
380 Chapel Street
Stratford, CT 06614

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

PHOTO BOOTH
CAPTURE THE SPECIAL MOMENTS!

DJ
DANCING, MUSIC & FUN!

FOOD & BEVERAGES
WILL BE AVAILABLE!

ONE SPECIAL NIGHT
MAKING MEMORIES TOGETHER!

TICKETS GO ON SALE THIS FRIDAY!
WATCH FOR THE LINK TO PURCHASE TICKETS THROUGH OUR ZEFFY EVENT PAGE.

PAY AT THE DOOR
\$20.00 PER FAMILY

STRONG DADS STRONG KIDS STRONG COMMUNITY

Chapel PTA Trunk or Treat

Prepare your favorite costumes and join our Chapel Street Elementary family for a complimentary evening of Halloween excitement! All school families are welcome to stroll among decorated vehicle trunks to gather goodies, admire creative designs, and celebrate a festive night alongside our wonderful Chapel community.

Click on this link to RSVP: [RSVP Link](#)

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA'S ANNUAL

TRUNK OR TREAT

BATTLE OF THE GRADES

EACH GRADE WILL COMPETE TO DECIDE WHO RULES CHAPEL

ALL ARE WELCOMED TO PARTICIPATE !

THE GRADE WITH THE MOST CANDY DONATIONS WINS !

BIGGER BAGS = MORE POINTS

WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING SCHOOL!

EMAIL: chapelstreetschoolpta@gmail.com

CHAPEL STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA'S ANNUAL

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 23RD

6:00PM-7:30PM | FREE | FLOOD MS LOT

PIZZA & SNACKS : SOLD BY THE 6TH GRADE COMMITTEE

EACH TRUNK WILL SUPPLY THEIR OWN CANDY

CANDY DONATIONS WILL BE NEEDED TO KEEP THE EVENT FREE

THE GRADE WITH THE HIGHEST DONATION COUNT WINS!!

SEE ONLINE POSTS FOR MORE INFO ...

WHICH CHAPEL FAMILY WILL TAKE THE 1ST PLACE TROPHY HOME??

FIRST 35 TRUNKS TO RSVP VIA QR CODE WILL BE GUARANTEED A SPOT!!!

NOT A DROP OFF EVENT

EMAIL: chapelstreetschoolpta@gmail.com



If you have reached out to anyone at school and haven't heard back, please check your spam folder.

Upcoming Events Calendar

- **October 16:** Father's Club Dance | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- **October 20:** PTA Paint & Sip (Grades 3–4) Time: 3:30 - 5:00 [Note: The date changed from 10/13]
- **October 23:** Trunk or Treat | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- **November 9–12:** PTA Fall Book Fair
- **November 12:** STEAM Night | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- **December 3:** Holiday Shoppe (During the school day)
- **December 4:** Father's Club Winter Social & Holiday Shoppe | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- **January 29:** PTA Winter Bingo | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- **February 10 & 11:** PTA Donuts with Grown-Ups | 7:45 – 8:15 a.m.
- **March 12:** PTA Spring Dance | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- **April 5–8:** PTA Spring Book Fair
- **April 8:** Multicultural Day & Night | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- **May 26:** PTA Literacy Night | 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Event Descriptions

PTA Paint 'n' Sip (After-School Activity)

- **Location:** Chapel Gymnasium
- **The Vibe:** A creative afternoon where students can unleash their inner artist while enjoying snacks and refreshments.
- **How You Can Help:** We need volunteers to help distribute art supplies, assist students with their masterpieces, and hand out snacks.

Father's Club Dance and PTA Spring Dance

- **Location:** School Gymnasium
- **The Vibe:** An exciting themed evening event featuring a live DJ, great food, and a fun photo booth to capture memories.
- **How You Can Help:** We need a crew to help with setup and decorations, assist with food and ticket sales, and help manage the crowd/hallway traffic.

Trunk-or-Treat

- **Location:** FMS Parking Lot
- **The Vibe:** A safe, festive, and spooky evening of community trick-or-treating!

- **How You Can Help:** Park and decorate your car trunk to pass out candy, help manage our community tables, or donate bags of candy ahead of time.

PTA Book Fair (Fall & Spring)

- **Location:** School Gymnasium
- **The Vibe:** We turn our gym into a bustling pop-up bookstore tailored specifically for students in grades K through 6! It's a wonderful week dedicated to exciting young minds and growing home libraries.
- **How You Can Help:** This event takes a village! We need volunteers to help set up the displays, run the registers to check out books for students, and help pack everything up at the end of the week.

STEAM Night

- **Location:** Chapel Street School
- **The Vibe:** A brilliant evening filled with fun, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math activities. Students get to explore, experiment, and create!
- **How You Can Help:** We need enthusiastic volunteers to welcome families as greeters, sell tickets and run the raffle station, and facilitate individual hands-on STEAM activity tables.

Holiday Shoppe

- **Location:** Gymnasium Stage
- **The Vibe:** A magical pop-up shop where students get the independence to pick out and purchase special holiday gifts for their family members. This event runs during the day for students and in the evening during the Winter Social!
- **How You Can Help:** We need a festive crew to help set up the shop and make it look like a winter wonderland, as well as volunteers to help students choose items and check out their purchases.

Winter Social

- **Location:** School Gymnasium
- **The Vibe:** A cozy, festive celebration for the whole community! Families can gather to enjoy holiday crafts, fun activities, a hot cocoa station, and a special photo opportunity with Santa.
- **How You Can Help:** We need volunteers to help bring the magic to life with event setup, supervise the various craft tables, and assist with the breakdown and cleanup at the end of the night.

PTA Winter Bingo

- **Location:** School Gymnasium
- **The Vibe:** A fun-filled family night out! Bring the whole crew to play BINGO, laugh with neighbors, and compete for exciting prizes in a high-energy environment.
- **How You Can Help:** We need a team to help set up the room, distribute BINGO cards and markers, run the snack tables, and hand out prizes to our lucky winners.

Donuts with Grownups

- **Location:** School Cafeteria
- **The Vibe:** A relaxed, café-style morning where students and their favorite adults can bond over a delicious continental-style breakfast before the school day begins.

- **How You Can Help:** Help us start the day right! We need volunteers to set up the dining tables, serve coffee, juice, and donuts, and assist with a quick breakdown and cleanup.

Multicultural Day & Night

- **Location:** Chapel School
- **The Vibe:** A vibrant celebration of global diversity and culture! Armed with a custom passport and map, families will take a trip around the world to explore country exhibits researched and created by our students. Enjoy international music, admire unique artifacts, and sample delicious global cuisines.
- **How You Can Help:**
 - * **Daytime (Multicultural Day):** Sign up to be a guest reader or help lead a traditional craft or game in a classroom.
 - **Evening (Multicultural Night):** Help us with event setup, act as a greeter to pass out passports and scavenger hunt sheets, coordinate entertainment, or run a game station.

Literacy Night

- **Location:** Chapel School
- **The Vibe:** A fun-filled family evening celebrating "Chapel's Big Read!" Bring the whole family to dive into our school-wide book through interactive storytelling, games, and creative literacy activities.
- **How You Can Help:** We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to act as welcoming greeters, guide families through the event, and facilitate the different literacy activity stations.

Parent's Corner

Virtual Suggestion Box

We have created a virtual family feedback box to strengthen school-family partnerships by making it easy, timely, and safe for families to share ideas, concerns, and praise so the school can respond, improve programs, and better meet all of our student needs. ← **Click on the link to the left!**

School is better with you here!

In school, every day

Coming to school every day leads to success now and in the future.

2 absences a month = too many

Missing even two days of school a month puts a child on their way to chronic absenteeism – so send your child to school every day so they get the full benefits of learning.

Visit **ct.gov/betterwithyou** to learn more

Regular school attendance is critical to maintain consistent academic growth as children progress through school. Families play an important role in helping build the habit of good attendance early and partnering with your child's school goes a long way in addressing chronic absenteeism. **Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or greater of the total number of days enrolled during the school year for any reason.** This includes excused absences, unexcused absences, out-of-school suspensions and in-school suspensions that last more than one-half of the school day.

Please click on the following link for more information on how to [Build the Habit of Good Attendance \(English\)](#) [Build the Habit of Good Attendance \(Spanish\)](#).

This link will take you to a short video on the importance of [Bringing Attendance Home](#).

Cafeteria:

Here is a link to the online application: [Free & Reduced Lunch Online Forms](#). Here is the link to [Addendum C](#).

- Breakfast this year is free to all students.
- The cost of lunch on the elementary level is \$3.10

Students also have the option of purchasing additional items; however, the purchase of ice cream or snacks can only be made if there is no balance in the cafeteria account. These items are not part of the lunch. The cost is \$1.00 for ice cream and bagged chips and \$.75 for Goldfish and Teddy Grahams. Lunch is served first. Then students who would like to purchase ice cream or a snack will have that option.

To settle cafeteria account balance payments can be made several ways:

1. By **Check** - Make checks payable to **Cafeteria Fund**. [Send payment by student]
2. By **Cash** - Parents are welcomed to come to Chapel between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 1:25 p.m., and pay directly in the cafeteria. [Cash should not be sent in with students]

To pay online, please follow the steps below:

Go to Stratford Public School district's website at <https://www.stratfordk12.org/>

- **CLICK Family Resources**
- **CLICK Food Service/Free & Reduced Meal Applications**
- **CLICK Sodexo MyWay Home Page Menus**
- In the upper right, **CLICK Pay On-Line**
- You can sign up for free to pay online

Special Note: Notices are sent home to families who carry balances in their cafeteria account. We ask that families please settle their accounts. Thank you!

We have created a new electronic form in PowerSchool titled, "Release of Student Information - Lunch Program" for families who choose to provide consent to disclose their child's eligibility status with school officials. NOTE: *This form will need to be completed each year the child attends SPS.*

How to access the form:

1. Sign in to the Parent Portal

Bus Safety:

We ask parents to have routine conversations with your children regarding safe and appropriate bus/van behavior. *School transportation is a student privilege conditional upon students being safe on buses, vans, and at bus stops. Students will be advised that, while awaiting or receiving transportation to and from school, they may be suspended from transportation services for unsafe conduct which endangers persons or property or violates a Board policy or administrative regulation. ([BOE Bus Conduct Policy 5131.1](#))*

Nut Free Building:

Chapel, along with all Stratford Public Schools, is a **NUT FREE** building. For the safety of all of our students, please be aware of what you are sending in for a snack and lunch with your child.

Lost & Found:

Remember to label your child's belongings. Over the course of the year, we accumulate quite a bit of lost and found. **Lost and found is located in Nurse Anne's office.**

Cell Phone Policy:

As we begin the 2025-2026 school year, please review our updated cell phone policy with your child. Here are the top 4 things you need to know:

1. Elementary School: All devices must be OFF and stored in backpacks throughout the entire school day.
2. No Photos/Videos: Taking pictures or videos anywhere on school property is prohibited for all students.
3. Emergency Contact: Students should go to the main office for emergency calls - personal devices should not be used.
4. Bring at Your Own Risk: The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged devices.

Remember: We strongly encourage leaving all electronic devices at home to avoid any issues.

For the complete policy details, please refer to the [full document](#). We also have this [short video](#) available, as well as a [podcast](#) explaining the key elements of the policy.

The Stratford BOE dress code policy aims to maintain a safe and stable learning environment while allowing students to respectfully express their individuality. For

2. Click **Forms** link on the left-hand menu
3. Select **Release of Student Information - Lunch Program**
4. Check the appropriate options
5. Electronically sign, date and click **submit**

Optimus Health Care Center:

Optimus Health Care Center will continue to service families that are signed up. However, any family that would like to enroll their child can access the enrollment forms, which are in English and Spanish on our school's web-site at [Optimus Health Care Enrollment Forms](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page to find the enrollment form. For more information on Optimus Health Care and the services they provide you can watch this short video: [Optimus Health Care Video](#).

Arrival and Dismissal:

Families who are new to Chapel and to all of our returning families, we want to provide you with a quick overview of our arrival and dismissal procedures:

- ★ We open our doors at 8:30 a.m. **Students should not arrive before this time as there is no supervision.**
- ★ Families who choose to drop off their child must use the Car Loop in the Flood Middle School parking lot.
- ★ For arrival, parents can enter the lot from Chapel Street and drive up towards Chapel School. Staff members will be at the top of the loop to receive students. Parents have the option to park their car in the Flood MS parking lot and walk their child to the front of the School.
- ★ We will dismiss at 3:30 p.m. At dismissal, students who ride either the bus or van will line up and will be loaded onto their vehicle in front of the school. Students who are picked up will be escorted to the car loop and students will be released to their parent(s) or caregiver. We ask that adults who are picking up their child be prepared to show their identification, this is especially important for new families to Chapel.

IMPORTANT! Families that are picking up their child at dismissal MUST access the car loop from James Farm Road. Also, we ask families to arrive after 3:15 p.m. Before this time, Flood Middle School is having their dismissal.

Flood Car Loop:

Families that are picking up their child at dismissal must enter AND exit the Flood car loop from James Farm Road.

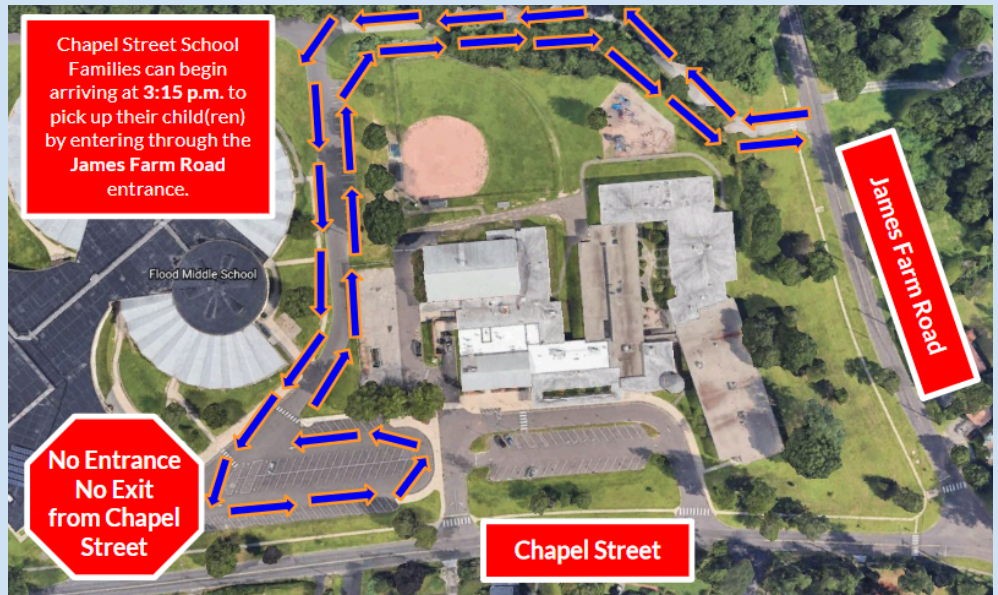
Also, please stay in line and follow the flow of traffic even if you are parking to pick-up your kindergarten child.

**FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY, PLEASE
FOLLOW THE TRAFFIC FLOW PATTERN
IN THE PICTURE →**

more detailed information please see [Policy 5132](#).

Emergency Contact Forms:

Please fill out emergency contact forms and return them back to the school as soon as possible. If phone numbers, email addresses or any family information changes, please let the school know so we can contact families in the event of an emergency. [Emergency Contact Form](#) **You can use this same form if your email or phone numbers change!**



Chapel Street School PTA

2026-2027 Chapel PTA Board Members:

- ★ Ashleigh Bepko, Co-President
- ★ Jennifer Bajda, Co-President
- ★ Chanelle Carroll, Secretary
- ★ Erin Karsif, Treasurer

Contact: Email: ChapelStreetSchoolPTA@gmail.com

All of the PTA Newsletters are stored on the [School Website](#).

Chapel Street School Father's Club

The mission of the Father's Club is simple: to increase the involvement of fathers and father figures in our students' lives. They aim to create more opportunities for positive male role models to actively participate in the school community, support our amazing teachers and staff, strengthen family connections, and build unforgettable memories for our kids.

- ★ Kenneth Pugh, President
- ★ Ryan Dalton, Vice-President
- ★ Pat Sullivan, Secretary
- ★ Larry Cifarelli, Treasurer

School & Community Flyers



SCHOOL BASED HEALTH SERVICES

Expert care for your child's health!

No need for a child to miss school for a medical appointment! All medical services are provided right here at Chapel Street Elementary School during school hours.



Our Services Include:

- Primary Care
- Well-Child Exams
- Sports Physicals
- Treatment for Acute Illness & Injury
- Lab Testing
- Flu Shots in the Fall
- Behavioral Health
- Tele-Health Services

Give us a call if you have any questions

203-385-4289



Stratford Public Schools

Bus Safety 101

In the Stratford Public Schools, the safety of our students is a **top priority**. To ensure a safe bus or van ride for everyone, it is **important** that all students follow these safety tips.

SAFETY AT THE BUS STOP

Avoid running to catch the bus by getting to your bus stop **10 minutes** before the bus is scheduled to arrive.

When waiting for the bus, **stay away from the street** and avoid running, playing or other behavior that can lead to accidents.

When the bus approaches, stand at least **three giant steps (6 feet)** away from the curb, and line up away from the street.

Wait until the bus stops, the door opens and the driver says it's okay before stepping onto the bus.

SAFETY WHILE RIDING THE BUS

Stay seated, with your feet out of the aisle while the bus is in motion.

Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself - **NO fighting** and **NO bullying** on the bus.

Use kind and respectful language when talking to the driver and other students.

Do **NOT** throw objects out the windows and do **NOT** damage bus property.

Throw **litter** in the trash when the bus is stopped.

Keep the **noise level** down so you do not distract the driver.

SAFETY WHILE EXITING THE BUS

Wait until the bus stops, the door opens and the driver says it's okay before stepping off the bus.

After you get off the bus, walk at least **three giant steps (6 feet)** away from the side of the bus. **Never walk behind the bus!**

If you drop something near the bus, **tell the driver**. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not see you.

REMEMBER, School transportation is a student privilege conditional upon students being safe on buses, vans and at bus stops. Students will be advised that, while awaiting or receiving transportation to and from school, they may be suspended from transportation services for unsafe conduct which endangers persons or property or violates a Board policy or administrative regulation.

